

Public Health - Seattle & King County
Influenza Vaccine Shortage Survey - Summary of Results
October 28, 2004

BACKGROUND

Public Health undertook an influenza vaccine shortage survey to assess the need for adult influenza (flu) vaccine in King County among hospitals, private physician practices, community and public health clinics, private businesses, and long term care (assisted living) facilities. Survey results from these facilities and for private service providers are summarized here. This survey excludes Vaccine For Children (VFC) Program flu vaccine.

METHODS

A one-page survey was distributed by fax, email, and phone to the five facility types. Follow-up is continuing for all groups.

Hospitals: 19 out of 22 (86%) area hospitals responded to the survey, including all major hospitals.

Private Physician Practices: A total of 231 private medical organizations and physician practices responded to the survey, representing the majority of providers.

Community and Public Health Clinics: 32 out of 32 (100%) community and public health sites responded to the survey.

Long term Care Facilities: 84 out of 84 (100%) long term care facilities responded to the survey.

RESULTS

Facilities:

As of October 28, 2004, PHSKC has received 367 completed surveys. Respondents administered approximately 343,000 doses of flu vaccine in 2003. In 2004, a total of 455,035 doses were ordered; 19% were ordered from Aventis, and 81% from Chiron; 5990 doses of Flu Mist were ordered. To date 126,670 doses (28%) of vaccine have been received. Respondents estimated that they serve 512,000 high risk patients who would be eligible for flu vaccine if it were available.

**Influenza Vaccine Ordered and Received Among Surveyed Facilities*,
Influenza Vaccine Availability Survey**

Facility type	Influenza vaccine doses ordered	Influenza vaccine doses received (% of ordered doses)	% of facilities with some vaccine
Hospital (includes hosp-based clinics)	226,250	105,600 (46%)	88%
Private Practice	180,675	16,320 (9%)	19%
Community Health Centers and Public Health	35,260	3,750 (11%)	13%
Assisted Living	12,850	1,000 (8%)	4%
ALL FACILITIES*	455,035	126,670 (28%)	

* Private Service Providers were not included in this part of the analysis.

Private Service Providers: Data have been collected from five private businesses/organizations that provide influenza vaccine to the community through retail outlets and business. These data are limited. These five service providers administered more than 120,000 flu vaccine doses in 2003. One business had ordered 80,000 doses of vaccine from Chiron for the 2004 flu season, another 46,000, but the population served is larger than King County. As of 10/27/04 all of the businesses that reported are out of vaccine. At this time one organization expects to receive 12,000 doses, three groups will not be receiving any more vaccine, and one has yet to respond.